OPINION 2304 (Case 3533)

Neobisium Chamberlin, 1930 (Arachnida, Pseudoscorpiones): precedence given over *Blothrus* Schiödte, 1847

Abstract. The Commission has conserved the widely used pseudoscorpion generic name *Neobisium* Chamberlin, 1930 by giving it precedence over the genus-group name *Blothrus* Schiödte, 1847, which has been used as a subgenus or synonym of *Neobisium*.

Keywords. Nomenclature; taxonomy; Arachnida; Pseudoscorpiones; NEOBISIIDAE; *Neobisium*; *Blothrus*; pseudoscorpions; Palaearctic.

Ruling

(1) Under the plenary power, the Commission has given the name *Neobisium* Chamberlin, 1930 precedence over the name *Blothrus* Schiödte, 1847 whenever the two are considered to be congeneric.

(2) The following names are hereby placed on the Official List of Generic Names in Zoology:
(a) *Neobisium* Chamberlin, 1930 (gender: neuter), type species *Obisium muscorum* Leach, 1817 (a junior subjective synonym of *Chelifer carcinoides* Hermann, 1804) by original designation, with the endorsement that it be given precedence over *Blothrus* Schiödte, 1847, whenever the two are considered to be congeneric;
(b) *Blothrus* Schiödte, 1847 (gender: masculine), type species *Blothrus spelaeus* Schiödte, 1847 by monotypy, with the endorsement that it is not to be given priority over *Neobisium* Chamberlin, 1930, whenever the two are considered to be congeneric.

(3) The following names are hereby placed on the Official List of Specific Names in Zoology:
(a) *spelaeus* Schiödte, 1847, as published in the binomen *Blothrus spelaeus* (specific name of the type species of *Blothrus* Schiödte, 1847);
(b) *carcinoides* Hermann, 1804, as published in the binomen *Chelifer carcinoides*, the valid specific name of the type species of *Neobisium* Chamberlin, 1930 (a senior subjective synonym of *Obisium muscorum* Leach, 1817).

History of Case 3533

An application to conserve the widely used pseudoscorpion generic name *Neobisium* Chamberlin, 1930 by giving it precedence over the genus-group name *Blothrus* Schiödte, 1847, which is currently used as a subgenus or synonym of *Neobisium*, was received from Mark S. Harvey (*Western Australian Museum, Welshpool DC, Western Australia, Australia*) and Volker Mahnert (*Muséum d'histoire naturelle, Genève, Switzerland*) on 31 August 2010. After correspondence the case was published in BZN **68**: 47–53 (2011). The title, abstract and keywords of the case were published on the Commission's website. No comments were received on this case.

Decision of the Commission

On 1 March 2012 the members of the Commission were invited to vote on the proposals published in BZN **68**: 49–50. At the close of the voting period on 1 June 2012 the votes were as follows:

Affirmative votes – 19: Alonso-Zarazaga, Ballerio, Brothers, Grygier, Halliday, Harvey, Kojima, Kottelat, Krell, Kullander, Minelli, Pape, Patterson, Rosenberg, Štys, Winston, Yanega, Zhang and Zhou.

Negative votes – 4: Bogutskaya, Lamas, Lim and van Tol.

Bouchet abstained. Fautin, Ng and Pyle were on leave of absence.

Bouchet ABSTAINED, and commented that the name *Neobisium* was the subject of a rather considerable body of literature, and it was thus conceivable that it should technically be protected against an unused senior synonym. However, he felt that in the present case the senior synonym (*Blothrus*) was not unused and the technical solution proposed by the applicants (conditional reversal of precedence) is a source of instability. Bouchet said he would have prefered that the name *Blothrus* be placed on the Official Index.

Original references

The following are the original references to the names placed on Official Lists by the ruling given in the present Opinion:

Blothrus Schiödte, 1847, *Oversigt over det Kongelige Danske Videnskabernes Selskabs Forhandlingar*, **6**: 80.

carcinoides, Chelifer, Hermann, 1804, *Mémoire aptérologique*. G. Levrault, Strasbourg, p. 118.

Neobisium Chamberlin, 1930, *Annals and Magazine of Natural History*, (10)**5**: 11.

spelaeus, *Blothrus*, Schiödte, 1847, *Oversigt over det Kongelige Danske Videnskabernes Selskabs Forhandlingar*, **6**: 80.